

The Jozef Pilsudski Institute of America

"The premiere U.S. based cultural organization committed to the Polish diaspora"

The Campaign for the Future



Introduction

Jozef Pilsudski Institute of America is one of two largest and most important archives related to the modern history covering WWI and WWII, Poland and Central and Eastern Europe, as well as Polish-American institutions that contributed to the building of the modern US Society. It shares this distinction with the Hoover Institution of Stanford University.

Contact: 212-505-9077 | future@pilsudski.org

During its 70-year history the Institute acquired and preserved unique archives that were and are being used by virtually any writer or researcher working on this period of European history, and also history of immigration to the US from Central-Eastern Europe. The Institute was created in 1943 on the initiative of several well-known Polish-American businessmen and activists and former ministers of the Polish Second Republic. It was named after the Polish statesman, Chief of State and leader of the Second Republic, Marshal Józef Piłsudski.



Major Accomplishments

Its initial collection of archives rescued from Poland at the beginning of WWII grew rapidly, incorporating donations from Polish institutions abroad, statesmen and generals and Polish-American immigrants and institutions, donations of books, works of art, historical artifacts and more. Through the years Józef Piłsudski Institute of America has become a world-renowned history research center and plays an important role in the promotion of culture and history of Poland and Central-Eastern Europe. The documentary collections in the Institute's archives are of particular value to the young generation of researchers and attract not only Polish and American historians, but also students of various other disciplines, journalists and filmmakers. A large number of archival and library materials, unique to the Institute, have been used in doctoral dissertations and publications around the world.

The Piłsudski Institute is not only a repository of treasured and historically unique archives; it is also a living monument to Poland's commitment to independence, personalized by the memory of Marshal Józef Piłsudski. At a time when Poland is again independent and is struggling to consolidate its sovereignty, Piłsudski's example is a beacon which galvanized the energies and commitment of patriotic Poles.

Prof. Zbigniew Brzeziński
Former National Security Advisor
Honorary Member since 1988

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The Institute's mission focuses on collecting, preserving and making available to the public archives and library materials and in educating and informing Americans about the history of Central-Eastern Europe.

Over the last 70 years the Institute has accumulated one million documents in its archives, created an art gallery and a specialized library of some twenty thousand books.

The Pilsudski Institute organizes gala events honoring outstanding individuals, who through their achievements render particular recognition to Poland, in various fields of business, history, literature, art and science.

Marshal Józef Piłsudski Leadership and Achievement Award:

- Zachary and Elizabeth M. Fisher, Founders and Chairpersons of the Intrepid Museum Foundation,
- John A. Georges, Retired Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the International Paper Co.
- William J. Bresnan, President and Chief Executive of Bresnan Communications,
- Jean E. Boyle, Vice President - International Business Development, McDonnell Aircraft and Missile Systems, Boeing Company,
- William R. Rhodes, Vice Chairman of Citigroup,
- Frank Spula, President of Polish National Alliance and Polish - American Congress,
- Izabela Roman, Medical Doctor, Former Executive Officer of Medical Research Companies,
- Barbara Mikulski - the United States Senator,
- Jan Czekajewski – Businessmen.

Joseph Conrad Literature Award:

Writers:

- Ryszard Kapuscinski,
- Tad Szulc,
- Andrzej Pomian,
- Lynne Olson & Stanley Cloud - authors of "The Question of Honor"
- Zbigniew Gluza, Editor-in-Chief of historical magazine "Karta",
- Tadeusz Płużanski - author of "Bestie"

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Science Award:

- Prof. Malgorzata Zielińska-Pfabe - Nuclear Physicist,
- Dr Alina Surmacka-Szczesniak - Chemist,
- Prof. Bohdan Paczynski - Astronomer,
- Hilary Koprowski - Microbiologist,
- Prof. Mieczysław Mąkosza - Organic Chemist,
- Prof. Zbigniew Darzynkiewicz – Biotechnologist,
- Prof. Krzysztof Matyjaszewski - Organic Chemist,
- Prof. Tadeusz Massalski - physicist, materials scientist, engineer.

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Wacław Jędrzejewicz History Award:

Historians :

- Prof. Norman Davies,
- Richard M. Watt,
- Prof. Janusz Zawodny,
- Prof. M.Kamil Dziewanowski,
- Dr Richard C. Lukas,
- Prof. Andrzej Nowak,
- dr Anna Jaroszynska – Kirchmann,
- Prof. Timothy Snyder,
- Prof. Andrzej Chojnowski,
- Prof. Krzysztof Szwagrzyk.

Ignacy Paderewski Art and Music Award:

- Wiesław Ochman - Opera Tenor,
- Henryk M. Górecki - Composer,
- Rafal Olbinski - Graphic Artist, Painter,
- Andrzej Pityński - Artist and Sculptor,
- Dariusz Jabłoński - Producer and Film Director,
- Anna Seniuk - Actress and Professor at the Theatre Academy in Warsaw,
- Janusz Skowron – Painter.

From modest beginnings in 1943, the Pilsudski Institute of America has been true to its mission. Friends, I applaud your hard work to advance the appreciation of Polish language, art, history, and cultural and artistic endeavors. You are great humanitarians and patriots, an empowering organization rooted in heritage, history and scholarship. You are protectors of the Polish language, literature, music, art and traditions.

Barbara A. Mikulski
United State Senator

Current Executive Committee of the institute

- Dr. Magda Kapuscinska - President
- Dr. Marek Zieliński - Vice-president
- Dr. Artur Kowalski - Vice-president
- Dr. Iwona Drag Korga - Executive Director and Treasurer
- Ewa Babiarez - Secretary

Board of Directors:

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- Andrzej Pelc
- Dr. hab. Danuta Piątkowska
- Dr. Marek Zieliński

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Programs: What the Pilsudski Institute is focused on today?

Free and open to the public programs:

- Conferences, symposia, meetings
- Exhibitions and lectures
- Panel discussions with outstanding historians, writers, journalists and witnesses of history
- Film screenings
- History classes for students of all ages



The Preservation of Archives

One of the most important programs of the Institute is the digitization of its archives, estimated at 1.5 million pages of documents. The goal of digitization is twofold: to preserve for posterity the documentary evidence of history and to make it freely available to the entire world. Using a devoted group of volunteers, few available grants and many donations, the Institute converts and publishes on the web the scans of original documents. Currently 8 of about 170 collections are available on www.pilsudski.org/archiwa

The Institute works closely with other archival institutions, like the Metropolitan Library Council in New York, other Polish archives and museums in the world and archival institutions in Poland, sharing the knowledge and creating joint virtual archives (e.g joint electronic Archive of Józef Pilsudski Institutes from New York and London).

Inspired by the ideas of its patron Marshal Piłsudski, the Institute held high the standard of national independence and scholarly integrity. Its unique archives are open to all scholars. The Institute promotes scholarly monographs and organizes important conferences. It is recognized in Poland and abroad as embodying the best traditions of Polish historical crafts. Its contribution is varied and important.

Prof. Emeritus Piotr Wandycz
Yale University
Member since 1975

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The Józef Piłsudski Institute of America was founded in 1943 as an archive, museum and research center devoted to the study of modern Polish history. During the "dark ages" of communism in Poland it was indispensable center preserving, accumulating and publicizing the objective historical information which the communist rulers tried to extinguish. With the end of communism in Poland, in addition to its historical mission the Institute has undergone a renaissance and become a lively center of interaction between the Americans of Polish extraction and their compatriots from free Poland. Particularly exciting is the enthusiasm of young Polish immigrants to the US who participate in the frequently organized events at the Institute. After the end of the Jurzykowski Foundation activity to honor the best Polish scientists from a variety of disciplines, the Piłsudski Institute remains the only body offering awards to eminent scholars, both from the US as well as from Poland, who deserve recognition, whether it is in the field of history, political, biomedical or engineering science. By offering the forum not only to learn and teach history of Poland and Polish-American interface but also by combining the educational and entertaining events such as movies, artistic events and seminars by invited speakers, the Institute is one of the very few centers where three generations of Poles living in the US can meet, learn, interact and enjoy.

Zbigniew Darzynkiewicz

Professor of Pathology, Medicine and Microbiology/Immunology
New York Medical College
Regular Member since 1979, Life member since 2009



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“The Campaign for the Future”

The Pilsudski Institute of America a New York based, 501.c3, non-profit organization is seeking a new permanent home. Due to circumstances regarding our existing headquarters’ landlord, we are launching this initiative. Our goal is to find a new location that would be representative both of our superb history, while also dynamic enough to accommodate our future aspirations. As mentioned, the new location will house all the programs described herein, from lectures to classes.

We are in the midst of a current *Campaign for the Future*, an initiative to ensure that our programs thrive for generations to come. We ask you to join us in supporting this urgent initiative. Our goal is to secure a sponsorship or community affairs grant in support of this initiative toward our ambitious, overall fundraising goal of **\$400,000**.

You can help the **“Campaign for the Future”** by making a tax deductible Donation, or by facilitating an introduction to a friend, potential donor or corporation or foundation.

Benefits and Visibility:

Please know that all gifts will be acknowledged publicly at the new headquarters on a permanent **Donor’s Wall of Honor** and online at <http://www.pilsudski.org>

I have been active at the Institute since the beginning of 2012, originally as a volunteer handling queries and now as Wikipedian-in-Residence. As a history student, I found the Institute to abound in rare sources and ones that are often inaccessible elsewhere. Documents and photographs that I have found helped me tremendously in writing my NYU theses on Piłsudski in Galicia and Polish interwar colonial plans. In addition, the Institute hosts regular cultural and scholarly events on various topics, including controversial ones, while maintaining an apolitical line.

Piotr Puchalski
volunteer, PhD history student
member since 2012

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Józef Piłsudski Institute of America

CAMPAIGN FOR THE FUTURE

Donor Pledge Form

Donations will be recognized in a permanent display at the new Jozef Pilsudski Institute of America building and online at <http://www.pilsudski.org>

The Institute will proudly recognize your generosity for the following amounts:

\$100 Friend	\$500 Donor	\$1,000 Champion*
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Thank you for your pledge. Your tax deductible check is payable to Jozef Pilsudski Institute of America.

Please send your contribution to:

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In Poland you can use the bank transfer to PKO SA V O. Warszawa, 77 1240 1066 1111 0000 0022 0987

To make an Online Donation to the Campaign visit:

<http://www.pilsudski.org/portal/en/campaign>

The Institute's Campaign for the Future thanks you for your generosity!



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